

NEWS STATEMENT BY SEN. STROM THURMOND (D-SC) ON NOMINATION OF
5 FORMER SOUTH CAROLINA SENATORS FOR SENATE RECEPTION ROOM
HONOR, December 6, 1955.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 6--Senator Strom Thurmond (D-SC) announced today he has submitted the names of five former U. S. Senators from South Carolina to a special Senate committee which will select five outstanding former Senators whose portraits will be placed on the wall in the Senate Reception Room.

The South Carolina Democrat has nominated Charles Pinckney, John C. Calhoun, Wade Hampton, Benjamin R. Tillman, and Burnet R. Maybank for consideration by the committee. He pointed out that no living person is eligible to be named by the committee.

The selection of the names of the five former Senators for this high honor is authorized by a Senate resolution passed at the last session of Congress. The resolution empowers the committee, headed by Senator Lyndon Johnson (D-Tex.) to select the names of the five former Senators to be honored at the rate of one ~~per year~~ *each year*. The first name is to be reported to the Senate by the close of the next session.

Pinckney was one of ~~the original signers of the Declaration of Independence~~ *the original signers of* and the U. S. Constitution. He devoted the major portion of his life to public service, serving as a State Representative, Member of the Continental Congress and the U. S. Constitutional Convention, president of the State Constitutional Convention, Governor, U. S. Representative, U. S. Senator, and Minister to Spain.

In recommending Calhoun, Senator Thurmond described him as "one of the greatest statesmen of his own era and one who stands high among the world's statesmen of all times."

Calhoun served his state and nation for 40 years as a U. S.

Representative,

Chairman of the House Foreign Relations Committee, U. S. Senator, Secretary of War, Secretary of State, and Vice President of the United States. He resigned from the vice presidency in 1832 to accept a seat in the Senate so he could better represent a principle in which he believed.

In 1832, the South Carolina Legislature nominated him for the presidency.

General Hampton, a gallant leader of the Southern Cavalry during the War Between the States, won fame as commander of "Hampton's Legion" and later as commander of the Cavalry of the Army of Northern Virginia.

After the war, he became Governor of South Carolina. He served in the U. S. Senate from 1878-91 and later as a U. S. Railroad Commissioner.

Tillman led a great movement of the rural population in South Carolina, and as leader of this movement was elected Governor in 1890. One of the accomplishments of his administration was the establishment of Clemson and Winthrop Colleges as state-supported institutions for the education of young men and women.

He won election to the U. S. Senate in 1895, serving there until 1918. During World War I, he was chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Maybank, Thurmond's predecessor in office, was a member of the U. S. Senate from 1941-54. He had just won renomination without opposition when he died in September, 1954.

Earlier he served as Mayor of Charleston, S. C., Chairman of the S. C. Public Service Authority, and Governor. While in the Senate he distinguished himself as Chairman of the Banking and Currency Committee.

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